

Given the nature of the Sinclair Broadcasting executives' publicly disclosed political contributions (97% Republican), it is clear that they are not using the public airwaves in a fair and balanced way. By not providing equal time to alternative viewpoints which might promote a meaningful public dialogue, they are attempting to skew mass opinion in favor of the politicians who favor their interests. They are using the public airwaves as a political tool for their own gain, without regard for the public interest.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.